

Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> 2023  
**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**  
Anglican Parish of Lantz



### **Our Mission**

*To be a diverse ministering community  
making Christ's presence known in the world around us.*

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

9:30 St. George's Church: 1089 Highway 277, Dutch Settlement  
11:00 Christ Church: 14 Church St., Lantz

### **Parish Clergy**

Rev'd Dr. Jane Magrath, Rector  
Rev'd Patty McKenna

# Our Worship Today

*We acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq who have been living on these lands since time immemorial.*

*Recognizing this is a small but meaningful step in reconciliation and the continued efforts of building a strong Nation-to-Nation relationship, as we are all Treaty People.*

## **Gathering:**

Beloved of God, we are called here today.

**We are called at every age, from every corner, to gather.**

Children of God, let us playfully worship together,  
**worshipping God who made each of us and loves all of us.**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

God of All the Ages,

we thank you for this day,

for caring for us beautifully in this time.

We praise your name for the gift of children

in our lives and in our community.

Forgive us for times when we discount their voices.

Help us share your story with one another

that we may remember your love written on our hearts.

Remind us to follow children, as they lead us to living the kingdom way.

**Amen.**

Almighty God

**to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Opening Hymn: *This is the Day that the Lord has Made***

This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice  
And be glad in it; and be glad in it.  
This is the day that the Lord has made  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord has made.

This is the world, this is the world  
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice  
And be glad in it; and be glad in it.  
This is the world that the Lord has made  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the world, this is the world  
That the Lord has made.

These are the folk, these are the folk  
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice  
And be glad with them; and be glad with them.  
These are the folk that the Lord has made  
We will rejoice and be glad with them.  
These are the folk, these are the folk  
That the Lord has made.

## **The Collect:**

O God, from whose abundance  
all gifts and skills are lavishly bestowed:  
give us courage to use our talents  
as generously as you have given them,  
so that, being faithful to your purpose,  
we may share in your glory;  
through Jesus the Christ, our pattern and our purpose. **Amen.**

## **Prayer for Illumination:**

**God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our hearts and minds may be opened. Amen.**

## **Proclamation of the Word:**

### **The First Reading:**

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians (4:1-6)  
(After the reading)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Psalm: 122** (read responsively)

I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'  
**Our feet are standing  
in your gates, Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem is built like a city  
that is closely packed together.

**That is where the tribes go up –  
the tribes of the Lord –  
to praise the name of the Lord  
according to the statute given to Israel.**

There stand the thrones for judgment,  
the thrones of the house of David.

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
'May those who love you be secure.  
May there be peace within your walls  
and security within your citadels.'**

For the sake of my family and friends,  
I will say, 'Peace be with you.'

**For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,  
I will seek your prosperity. AMEN**

## **The Gospel:**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Matthew (25:14-30)

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

(After the reading)

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **Sermon:**

### **Affirmation of Faith:** (Standing)

With the whole church

**We affirm that we are made in God's image,**

**Befriended by Christ,**

**Empowered by the Spirit**

With people everywhere

**We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity**

**Planted more deeply than all that is wrong**

With all creation

**We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life;**

**The unfolding purposes of God,**

**forever at work in ourselves and the world. Amen**

## Prayers of the People:

*We pray for the church, the world, our community, and those known to us, remembering especially those in particular need. Each time the leader says "Lord in your mercy," we respond saying, **Hear our Prayer***

## Confession & Absolution:

Compassionate God, we confess that life is hard. We don't always make the best choices, and all too often we realize the options before us are lacking. We are overwhelmed with the enormity of the world's problems. Sometimes, we turn away completely. Sometimes, we respond with our tribal allegiances first in mind. Bitterness and resentment are easy guides. Help us seek wisdom and clarity, compassion and presence, hope and peace over shallow victories, material gain, and violence of the mind, body, or spirit. Bless us to be peacemakers, hope sharers, and love spreaders in the world for our neighbors and for your glory. **Amen.**

We have wounded your love.

**O God, heal us.**

We stumble in the darkness.

**Light of the world, transfigure us.**

We forget that we are your home.

**Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

Eternal Spirit,

**living God,**

**in whom we live and move and have our being,**

**all that we are, have been, and shall be**

**is known to you.**

**In the very secret of our hearts**

**you know all that rises to trouble us.**

**Living flame, burn into us.**

**Cleansing wind, blow through us.**

**Fountain of water, well up within us;**

**that we may love and praise**

**in deed and in truth. Amen.**

Friends, God is merciful and journeys with us as we navigate uncertain terrain. God is still at work in us and through us that we might have flourishing and abundant lives in community with one another. Receive the grace God grants to begin anew when our journey stalls or diverts from the path of the kin-dom. That grace is yours. **Amen**

## **Celebrations:**

*We celebrate special occasions in the lives our parish family*

**O God, our times are in your hand: look with favour, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Exchanging of the Peace:**

Peace be with you  
And also with you.

## **Offertory Hymn: *This Little Light of Mine***

This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? NO!  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bushel? NO!  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bushel? NO!  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Won't let anyone blow it out  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
Won't let anyone blow it out  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
Won't let anyone blow it out  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Shining bright in this old world  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Shining bright in this old world  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Shining bright in this old world  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## **Prayer over the Gifts:**

*The gifts of bread and wine, together with the offering of our means, are presented with prayer:*

**Each of us is a fragile miracle, evidence of God's creative hands, and amazing grace.**

**We are each unique, unrepeatable gifts to the world.**

**We are proof of God's love.**

**And so we who are the gifts of creation now give gifts to our Creator.**

**Gifts brought in love. Amen**

## ***Eucharistic Prayer for Children:***

May God be among us.

**God's Spirit is with us now.**

Let us lift our hearts.

**May the world be filled with joy.**

Let us rejoice in God's gift of Jesus.

**We rejoice and give thanks.**

Loving God, we give you thanks. In the beginning, you made the world with all the creatures of land and sea and air. You taught us stories that would help us to be steady and faithful – like the ground we walk on.

You bless us with imagination, freedom and spirit – like the wind that sings through the trees. You call us to look up and see the moon, the stars and the sun so that we may recognize your beauty in creation.

You give us life and the knowledge of good and evil but sometimes we turn away from you and from each other and care more for ourselves. Sometimes we forget the Bible stories of courage and forget to walk lightly on the earth. Sometimes we forget how the waters of baptism give us hope and new life.

In Jesus, you gave us a person and a story that would help us to remember your love and how to be your people. And so we sing!

## **Echo Holy Holy**

**Holy Holy Holy**

**Lord God of power and might**

**Heaven, heaven and earth**

**are full of your glory**

**Sing Hosanna ...**

**Blessed, blessed is he**

**who comes in the name of the Lord**

**Sing Hosanna ...**

Maker of all, blessed are you for sending us a true and faithful light, Jesus our brother and friend. On the night before he died, he gathered together with his friends. During supper, he took bread and wine and gave thanks to God. He shared the bread with his friends and said: "Take this and eat it in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup of wine and blessed it. This cup reminds us that we are Jesus' family, part of the eternal life of God's promises given for everyone who needs him.

Blessed God, we do this in remembrance of Jesus' life on earth, of the love he has for us all, and in faith that we too will share in his resurrection. With hope, we look for him in the world and pray to see his face in heaven.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine so that we may know that Jesus is here with us, here IN us.

With all the creatures and with everything in your world, renew us in the power of your love so that peace and justice may be revealed.  
And now, as our Saviour has taught, we pray

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ  
**We, being many, are one body for we all share in the one bread.**

*All are welcome to share in the bread and/or the wine. Please note that drops of the wine are placed on the bread – so you will want to hold onto your bread if you would like to share in the wine.*

*People are invited to sit while awaiting Communion.*



## **Announcements:**

As Jesus calls us as disciples, God sends us out to serve others in the world. Let us share with one another the events of our parish and community this week.

## **Closing Prayers:**

Standing, let us return our thanks to God.

Holy one, through this Eucharist,  
we have remembered ourselves  
as the collective body of Christ, living in service to the light.  
May we allow our unique souls to shine brightly as we walk in this world,  
giving fully of ourselves, so that we help to lighten the darkness around us.

**Amen**

Glory to God

**Whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can  
ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in  
the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Blessing:**

Be a kingdom builder this week. Find a way to offer your time and talent  
to a project worthy of God's hope for the world God loves!  
And so may the blessing of God – Creator, Christ and Spirit –  
fill you and overflow through you to touch others with God's renewing love.

## **Closing Hymn: *We are Children, Children of the Light***

**We are children, children of the light  
We are shining, in the darkness of the night  
Hope for this world, joy through all the land  
Touch the heart of everyone, take everybody's hand**

**Come and gather round the flame,  
Share the light in His name  
We the children of the light  
As the wind blows where it will  
Spread the news to everyone  
There's still plenty of time, for we have just begun**

**We are children, children of the light  
We are shining, in the darkness of the night  
Hope for this world, joy through all the land  
Touch the heart of everyone, take everybody's hand**

Join the song of all the Earth  
We've a dream, a dream to share  
And a promise of rebirth  
Let the Earth feel the warmth  
Of the love there in your heart  
We have many a dream and promises to keep

We are children, children of the light  
We are shining, in the darkness of the night  
Hope for this world, joy through all the land  
Touch the heart of everyone, take everybody's hand

### **Dismissal:**

Let us go out into the world to love and serve God by loving and serving others.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

# Parish Notices and Announcements

## Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

**World:** The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)  
**Diocese:** St. John's, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia  
The Reverend Tory Bryne, Priest-in-Charge  
**Yarmouth and Tusket, Nova Scotia**  
The Reverend Gordon Hamilton, Priest-in-Charge  
The Reverend Ross Hammond, Retired  
*Holy Trinity, Yarmouth*

## Read Your Bible:

|                  |                      |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Mon- Mt 25:14-30 | Tue- Mt 25:31-46     | Wed- Ezek 34:20-31   |
| Thu- Ps 100      | Fri- 1 Cor. 15:1-19  | Sat- 1 Cor. 15:20-34 |
|                  | Sun- 1 Cor. 15:35-58 |                      |

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24; Ps 100; Eph 1:15-23; Mt 25:31-46

**Weekly Wisdom:** *"The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away"* — Pablo Picasso

## Events this Week:

**St. George's Guild Meeting-** Tue Nov 21<sup>st</sup> @ 1pm

**Meditation-** Wed Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 1:30pm at Felicity's

**Prayer Shawl Group-** The meeting will be Thu Nov 16<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm at St. George's.

**Shortbread Cookie Christmas Sale-** Cookies, Rounds (4.5") and Bars \$5. To order call 259-2506 or 883-9755. Deadline to order is Sun Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>. Pick-up will be Dec 8<sup>th</sup> at Christ Church 3:30-5:30 pm.

**Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> is a Children's Sunday at St. George's.** All children will be invited to participate in the service in a variety of ways – and the sermon will be child friendly 😊

## Upcoming Events:

**Christmas Family online auction:** Looking for donations of gently used items ( no electronics) for the online auction; proceeds go to Family Ministries to support a Christmas family. Items can be marked for auction and left at either church.

## SchoolsPlus Stocking Stuffer Christmas Drive

Schoolsplus in the Musquodoboit Valley family of schools is supporting families in the Dutch Settlement, Middle and Upper Musquodoboit communities by providing stocking stuffer items this Christmas. They are seeking donations of new items to include toiletries, socks & mittens, small toys and games, chocolate

and candy. Cash donations are also welcomed. There will be collection boxes at each church for donated items.

### **Seafarer Boxes**

If you would like to put together a shoebox of items for the Seafarers, here are some suggestions for items: Hairbrush/Comb, Kleenex, Lip Balm, Magnets, Gold Bond Powder, Gold Bond Cream, T-shirts (new), Needle/Thread, Shaving Cream, Nail Clippers, Toothbrushes/Toothpaste, Gum & Hard Candy, Q-Tips, Mechanical Pencils, Flashlight w/batteries, Popcorn, Socks, Word Search/ Sudoku/Fill-in books, Earbuds/Headphones, USB Flash Drives, 2024 Calendar, Band-Aids, Baseball Cap, Disposable Razors, Dental floss, Deodorant, Lotion, Hot Chocolate, Key Chains, Nova Scotia Souvenirs, Shampoo, Playing Cards, Conditioner, Body Wash, Pocket sized notebooks, Writing tablet, Pens.

Please do not wrap the boxes as they will have to be checked before being distributed. The drop off deadline date will be Sun Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **St. George's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Information corner:**

- The 150<sup>th</sup> celebration will be held on April 21, 2024 at St. George's @ 11 am with a luncheon to follow.
- The Bishop will be attending along with past clergy and other special guests
- a Book of St. George's from 1874-2024 will be available for anyone who wants one to take home
- Old pictures: there will be a box at the back of the church for you to put them in. Please put your name on the back of the photo.
- Wants: We are hoping to install a Bell sound system, paint the pews and floor and put a light on the Good Shepherd window

### **Contact Us:**

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